the civic facilities and project infrastructures in keeping with public health requirements. Emphasis has also been placed on disease surveillance undertaking preventive measures and establishment of early warning system.

Availability of medicines in Government Hospitals

2270. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the patients are facing a lot of inconvenience due to the non-availability of medicines even for ordinary dseases in the Government hospitals/centres in the country, particularly in the State of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to improve the situation;

(c) whether Government propose to seek the help of social workers for the distribution of medicines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) There is no such report.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Grants provided to Gujarat for Family Welfare Programme

2271. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any grants-in-aid was provided to voluntary organisations in the Gujarat State under the Family Welfare Programme during the year 1992-93 and 1993-94 till date;

(b) if so, the details of the grants-in-aid provided to the State;

(c) whether the State Government has utilised all the grants under the scheme; and

(d) if not, the reasons therfor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The assistance provided to the Voluntary Orgainsations in Gujarat State for approved Schemes of Department of Family Welfare is :

Year	Rupees
1992-93	58,50,200
1993-94	17,00,000
1994-95	11,00,000

(upto 31st July, 1994)

(c) and (d) Voluntary Organisations and the State Government have utilised all the grants except the funds released recently during 1994-95.

Setting up of an expert committee to examine anti-tobacco Legislation

2272. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a demand or suggestion was made for setting up an expert Committee to examine the whole range of issues and consequences of anti-tobacco legislation; and

(b) whether Government are examining the suggestion for setting up an Expert Committee on anti-tobacco legislation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Such a suggestion has been made from time to time.

(b) Government had organised a National Conference on Tobacco on Health in July, 1991 in which representatives from various Government and Non-Government Oragnisations, Cigarette manufacturing companies, Tobacco growers, Economists, Educationists, Medical Scientists participated and all the Tobacco related issues were discussed.

Handling the unemployment due to anti-tobacco legislation

2273. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any surcharge or levy has been proposed on multi-national drug companies to finance welfare schemes and economic safety not for prospective unemployment amongst beedi and tobacco workers; and

(b) if so, details of statistics worked out to assist unemployed workers and unemployment due to anti-tobacco and anti-beedi legislation proposed by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DR. C. SUVERA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

News-item regarding stress of vedic teachings in health care

2274. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item published in